

What is claimed is:

1. A removable device including a multifunction handle coupled to the
5 device, the multifunction handle including a force-developing portion and including
an interlock portion adapted to be engaged by an interlock component, the handle
operable to develop an insertion force at the force-developing portion responsive to
a force applied to the handle and operable to secure the removable device in a
desired position and prevent use of the handle responsive to the interlock portion
10 being engaged by the interlock component.

2. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the force-developing portion
comprises a cam.

15 3. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the interlock portion
comprises an aperture in the handle and an aperture in a side of the removable
device, and wherein the interlock component comprises a rod adapted to extend
through the two apertures.

20 4. The removable device of claim 3 wherein the removable device
comprises a removable mass storage device.

5. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the removable drive has a
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle
25 rotates in an upward and a downward direction about an axis that is parallel to the
top and bottom panels.

6. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the removable drive has a
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle
30 develops the insertion force responsive to a sideways force applied leftward or
rightward to the handle.

7. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the handle comprises:
a front member;
a back member;
a first side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a
5 second end coupled to the back member;
a second side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a
second end coupled to the back member, and including an aperture corresponding
to the interlock portion; and
at least one insertion cam extending from the back member.

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8. A computer system, comprising:
computer circuitry;
at least one drive bay, each drive bay being electrically coupled to the
computer circuitry, and each drive bay including,
15 an interlock mechanism, and
a release switch; and
at least one removable device, each removable device being adapted to be
positioned in a drive bay and including a multifunction handle having an interlock
portion, the handle developing an insertion force responsive to a force applied to
20 the handle to assist in inserting the device into the bay, and the interlock
mechanism operable to engage the interlock portion responsive to an activation
signal from the computer circuitry, and the interlock mechanism operable to
disengage the interlock portion responsive to a deactivation signal from the
computer circuitry developed responsive to the release switch being activated.

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9. The computer system of claim 8 wherein each handle includes a cam
that functions as a force-developing portion to develop the insertion force.

10. The computer system of claim 8 wherein each interlock portion
30 comprises an aperture formed in the handle.

11. The computer system of claim 8 further comprising:

at least one input device coupled to the computer circuitry;
at least one data output device coupled to the computer circuitry; and
at least one permanent data storage device.

5 12. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the interlock mechanism
comprises a solenoid.

13. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable device
comprises a removable mass storage device.
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14. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable drive has a
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle
rotates in an upward and a downward direction about an axis that is parallel to the
top and bottom panels.
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15. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable drive has a
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle
develops the insertion force responsive to a sideways force applied leftward or
rightward to the handle.
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16. The computer system of claim 8 wherein release switch comprises a
switch positioned adjacent an opening of each drive bay.

17. A multifunction handle adapted to be coupled to a removable device,
25 the multifunction handle including a force-developing portion and including an
interlock portion adapted to be engaged by an interlock component, the handle
operable to develop an insertion force at the force-developing portion responsive to
a force applied to the handle and operable to be secured in a fixed position
responsive to the interlock portion being engaged by the interlock component.
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18. The multifunction handle of claim 17 wherein the force-developing
portion comprises a cam.

19. The multifunction handle of claim 17 wherein the interlock portion comprises an aperture.

5 20. The multifunction handle of claim 17 comprising:
 a front member;
 a back member;
 a first side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a
 second end coupled to the back member;
10 a second side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a
 second end coupled to the back member, and including an aperture corresponding
 to the interlock portion; and
 at least one insertion cam extending from the back member.

15 21. A method of inserting a removable drive into a drive bay of a
computer system, the removable drive including a handle and the method
comprising:
 applying a force to the handle to insert the drive into the drive bay;
 detecting the insertion of the drive into the drive bay;
20 disabling use of the handle and securing the drive in the drive bay
responsive to the detecting the insertion of the drive into the drive bay;
 detecting activation of a release mechanism; and
 enabling use of the handle responsive to detecting activation of the release
mechanism.

25 22. The method of claim 21 wherein detecting activation of a release
mechanism comprising detecting an activation of a switch.

 23. The method of claim 22 wherein detecting an activation of a switch
30 comprises detecting selection of a soft switch displayed by the computer system.

24. The method of claim 21 further comprises updating information stored on the removable drive after detecting activation of a release mechanism and before enabling use of the handle.

- 5 25. The method of claim 21 wherein disabling use of the handle comprises inserting a rod through an aperture in the handle.